GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:276
ANSWERED ON:11.08.2006
GLOBAL POSITIONING SYSTEM
Lagadapati Shri Rajagopal

Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) Whether the country has developed the Global Positioning System for application in the Surface Transport;

(b) If so, the details thereof;

(c) Whether it helps the drivers in avoiding accidents especially on the National Highways and the State Highways;

(d) If so, the details thereof;

(e) Whether the Government is working on National Spatial Data Infrastructure, along with the GPS; and

(f) If so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF EARTH SCIENCES (KAPIL SIBAL)

(a) to (f): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (f) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 276 FOR 11.08.2006 REGARDING `GLOBAL POSITIONING SYSTEM`.

(a) The Global Positioning System (GPS) is an equipment which is now freely available in the market. In conjunction with digital maps, GPS can be put to various uses in surface transport. The Survey of India, under this Ministry has prepared Large Scale Digital Maps for 7 metros with this end in view and same are awaiting the clearance by the Ministry of Defence.

(b) The primary function of a GPS is to determine the position (Latitude and Longitude) of any place by linking with artificial satellites. This is very useful for ships and boats in oceans and also for vehicles on roads. Once the position of a place is known accurately, it will help people to know shortest routes or alternate routes for destinations or public utilities by using digital maps.

(c) No, Sir, use of GPS by itself can`t help drivers in avoiding accidents.

(d) Does not arise.

(e)&(f)Yes Sir, the Government have recently approved constitution of National Spatial Data Infrastructure (NSDI) and the Government of India Resolution to this effect will be gazetted shortly. The NSDI in as much as it is based on widely accepted standards, shall be compatible with GPS.